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airports and to attract private investment required for achieving the above objectives. At present, the airports located at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata have been taken up for this exercise.

**Agreement between Nepal and India over Airport Security arrangement**

4. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even after one year of IA plane Hijack from Nepal to Kandhar there has been no agreement between Nepal and India over the airport security arrangement to avoid such incidents in future;

(b) if so, what are the difficulties in arriving at an agreement between the two countries; and

(c) what is the present position and what steps have been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Indian Airlines have reached an understanding with the Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal regarding measures for ensuring security of Indian Airlines flights taking off from Kathmandu. These include:

(i) Access control to the aircraft on the ground by Indian Airlines;

(ii) Ladder-point frisking of passengers and their hand baggage on a specially enclosed platform by Indian Airlines;

(iii) Secondary X-Ray screening of checked baggage in the baggage make-up area.